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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Applicants: Craig D. Johnson et al.

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Art Unit: 3679

Serial No.: 10/708,517

Filed: March 9, 2004

Title: JOINING TUBULAR
MEMBERS

Examiner: Aaron M. Dunwoody

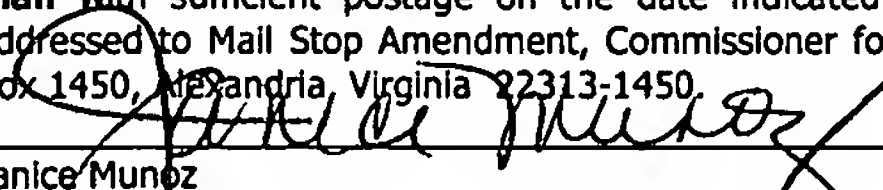
Docket No. 68.0322US
(SHL.0238US)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT DATED AUGUST 31, 2005

Dear Sir:

Please cancel claims 6, 10, 13, 20, 21, 23-49, 61, 68, 69 and 71-96 without prejudice and amend the claims in accordance with the following CLAIM AMENDMENTS section; and consider the comments in the following REMARKS section.

Date of Deposit: September 30, 2005
I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as **first class mail** with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Janice Munoz